

**Thomas Jefferson to William Short, August 19,
1808, from Thomas Jefferson and William Short
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.
Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

Thomas Jefferson to William Short

Monticello Aug. 19. 08

Dear Sir

Your letters of the 7th & 10th were received on the 15th & communicated to Mr. Madison & received back from him, yesterday; we relinquish the idea of a direct passage to St. Petersburg and adopt that of a general communication to the government of France through which you will pass. Mr. Madison will be here within a few days in order that we may arrange and finally expedite whatever is necessary for you. Till then neither the vessel nor port can be fixed; but I may say negatively that it will not be one of our little armed vessels. The pressure of time allowed my by the short delay of the post here must apologize for the brevity of my letters, so many of an indispensable character filling up the short space allowed me for their writing. I salute you with constant affection. Th. Jefferson

FC (Jefferson Papers, DLC)